

## SECRET

SMOLKNSK2. History

## a. The city's role in World War II:

(1) In addition to the large number of buildings, bridges, the water supply, electric power, street car, and automatic telephone systems were destroyed.

(2) Oberst Thomas of the German 71st Infantry Regiment was appointed city commandant on 15 Jul 41; the tenure of his office is unknown. *(see report 87)*

Events in Aug 1941: A food shortage exists, and long lines are seen in front of stores. While some disagreement is voiced with the treatment of the Jews, the establishment of a ghetto appears to be greeted by general satisfaction. The city was systematically combed for Communist Party functionaries, agents, criminals, and Jewish intelligentsia. A total of 74 persons were arrested and executed. The city now houses only a small fraction of its former population. (Report of the Commander of the Sicherheitspolizei and SD)

3. Population

- a. Total number: 25,450 (December 1941 census)
- b. Breakdown by professions (as of December 1941)

7,879 Construction workers  
 92 Printers  
 4,982 White collar workers  
 305 Railroad workers  
 276 Technicians  
 867 Locksmiths  
 136 Automobile mechanics  
 176 Chauffeurs  
 69 Barbers  
 171 Shoemakers  
 44 Tailors  
 368 Cooks  
 486 School personnel  
 76 Physicians  
 4 First aid personnel  
 309 Nurses

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9 Dentists  
 1 Dental technician  
 11 Pharmacists  
 1 X-ray technician  
 5 Radio technicians  
 1 Hydrotechnician  
 9 Surveyors  
 22 Agronomists  
 1 Veterinary technician  
 2 Veterinarians  
 11 Gardeners  
 7 Milkers  
 2 Brewers  
 1 Distillers  
 21 Game-wardens  
 5 Lawyers  
 5 Clerics  
 1561 Other professions  
 (50 percent of the population unable to work at time of census)

## c. Ethnic origin of the city's population as of Dec 1941:

Russians	23,110	90.7%
White Ruthenians	1,026	4.1"
Poles	488	1.9%
Ukrainians	312	0.8"
Latvians	189	0.5"
Germans	106	0.4"
Lithuanians	118	0.5"
Gypsies	23	0.1"
Tatars	27	0.1"
Estonians	10	0.05%
Miscellaneous	41	0.2 "

## d. Breakdown of city's population by religious beliefs:

Greek orthodox	24,100	94.6%
Catholic	849	3.4"
Lutherans	259	1.0"
Mohammedans	24	0.1"
Others	272	1.0"

11. Miscellany

Führer durch die Sowjet-Union (Guide Through the Soviet Union), published in 1928 by the Neuer Deutscher Verlag, Berlin, may be used to obtain locations requested in paragraphs 5 through 10. (GMS document).

Sources:

Captured files of German Army units and activity reports of the Sicherheitspolizei und SD.